

# 2013 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

# **Display Report**

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Title:	Urban Refuge Combating Invasive Species through Learning and Participating		
Region: Use region number ONLY	1		
Station:	Tualatin River NWR Complex		
<b>Contact Person:</b> Name and Phone Number	Kim Strassburg, 503-625-5944		
Project Description: (Up to 250 words)	With more than 80% of Americans now living in urban areas, Tualatin River NWR has an enormous opportunity to conduct invasive species outreach and education to a large number of people. We recognize an urgent need to build awareness of and participation in prevention and management of invasive species, both plant and animal, on and off refuge lands. With over 110,000 annual visitors and 150-200 annual volunteers, the refuge is well-positioned to have an exponential impact in educating and fostering conservation. We will accomplish this through outreach/training for teachers, volunteer training, on-the-ground inventory and control of refuge invasive plants, special events/workshops on native gardening, and exhibits for the visiting public. Through conversations and direct feedback, we are finding that past participants in similar programs are implementing invasives control, often on their own, sometimes bringing issues to staff attention that may have been otherwise overlooked. A recent email from a refuge volunteer demonstrates this. "Hi staff. Just to let you know I braved the blackberries today and removed 4-5 'traveler's joy' plants; the clematis rated in top 10 of Wash county invasives using best practice of 'early detection rapid response'! One had snuck into a nice rose near the 1st bridge and the others were near the River Overlook growing under a blackberry and around an old stump. You may view the vines on the 'back porch' by the hose. There are several other larger ones which I can show you!"		
List of Invasives Species Targeted:	Common Name	Scientific Name	
	Purple Loosestrife	Lythrum salicaria	
	Reed Canary Grass	Phalaris arundinacea	
	Himalayan Blackberry	Rubus armeniacus	
	Canada Thistle	Cirsium arvense	
	Bull Thistle	Cirsium vulgare	
	Common Teasel	Dipsacus fullonum	
	Nutria	Myocastor coypus	

	Bullfrog	Rana catesbeiana
Project Status:	InProgress	
Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)		

### **VOLUNTEER INFORMATION**

Volunteer Affiliation: (Check all that apply)	VA_FriendsGrp VA_Scouts VA_SchoolGrp VA_CivicOrg VA_Other	
Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	Friends of TRNWR provide outreach, program development and delivery, volunteer recruitment and management. Refuge volunteers conduct on-refuge mapping, control, and post-treatment monitoring. Other partners such as soil and water conservation districts assist with education and program delivery.	
Total Number of Volunteers:	60	
Total Number of Volunteer Hours:	444	
Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	Friends of Tualatin River NWR; George Fox University; National Science Teacher's Association; R1 Fisheries Division; Boy Scouts; East Multonomah Soil and Water Conservation District	

#### **PROJECT RESULTS**

Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	This grant is 2-pronged with a strong focus on invasive species outreach and education and a supporting focus on active field management of native/invasive species. The following accomplishments reflect work completed from 7/1/13 through 12/15/13. All work has been accomplished with assistance of volunteers. Outreach/Education: 72 volunteers trained in invasive species issues during 3 "extended learning" programs; 700 teachers reached with information on preventing invasive species infestations that occur as a result of release of animals and plants used in classroom science projects; and 164 visitors participated in 9 walks, talks, and workshops with invasive species content. Field: 50 acres have been mapped; 90 acres treated; 160 acres monitored post-treatment; 15 acres assessed and reseeded with natives; 2 volunteer work parties conducted; and 10 acres of the rare Penstemon hesperius has been protected by combatting invasive encroachment. Additional education programming and field work is planned January-July 2014.
Number of Acres Treated:	110
Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:	210
Number of Acres Restored:	15

### **BUDGET INFORMATION**

**Budget:** Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

Total Grant Amount:	<b>\$</b> \$17,721

## **Breakdown of Expenditures:**

1 otal \$ Spent % of lotal Grant	Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
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Equipment / Supplies		
Chemical		
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel		
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$15,071	85%
Restoration Materials		
Other	\$2,650	15%
TOTAL		

1	Recommendations: (OPTIONAL)	As an urban refuge, Tualatin River NWR has an enormous
1	How useful was this program for meeting refuge	opportunity to conduct outreach and education about invasive
1	invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?	species and how the community can help on and off refuge lands.
1		We appreciate that outreach is supported through the invasives
1		with volunteers program. Please consider that outreach can
ı		continue to be a high priority.

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